

PATENT COOPERATION TREATY

PCT

INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY REPORT ON PATENTABILITY

(Chapter II of the Patent Cooperation Treaty)

(PCT Article 36 and Rule 70)

REC'D 04 APR 2006

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Applicant's or agent's file reference FP20805	FOR FURTHER ACTION See Form PCT/IPEA/416	
International application No. PCT/AU2004/001661	International filing date (day/month/year) 26 November 2004	Priority date (day/month/year) 26 November 2003
International Patent Classification (IPC) or national classification and IPC		
Int. Cl.		
C23C 2/02 (2006.01)	C23C 2/08 (2006.01)	C23C 2/26 (2006.01)
C23C 2/04 (2006.01)	C23C 2/10 (2006.01)	
C23C 2/06 (2006.01)	C23C 2/12 (2006.01)	
Applicant BLUESCOPE STEEL LIMITED et al		

1. This report is the international preliminary examination report, established by this International Preliminary Examining Authority under Article 35 and transmitted to the applicant according to Article 36.	
2. This REPORT consists of a total of 4 sheets, including this cover sheet.	
3. This report is also accompanied by ANNEXES, comprising:	
a. <input type="checkbox"/> (sent to the applicant and to the International Bureau) a total of sheets, as follows:	
<input type="checkbox"/> sheets of the description, claims and/or drawings which have been amended and are the basis for this report and/or sheets containing rectifications authorized by this Authority (see Rule 70.16 and Section 607 of the Administrative Instructions).	
<input type="checkbox"/> sheets which supersede earlier sheets, but which this Authority considers contain an amendment that goes beyond the disclosure in the international application as filed, as indicated in item 4 of Box No. I and the Supplemental Box.	
b. <input type="checkbox"/> (sent to the International Bureau only) a total of (indicate type and number of electronic carrier(s)) , containing a sequence listing and/or table related thereto, in electronic form only, as indicated in the Supplemental Box Relating to Sequence Listing (see Section 802 of the Administrative Instructions).	
4. This report contains indications relating to the following items:	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Box No. I	Basis of the report
<input type="checkbox"/> Box No. II	Priority
<input type="checkbox"/> Box No. III	Non-establishment of opinion with regard to novelty, inventive step and industrial applicability
<input type="checkbox"/> Box No. IV	Lack of unity of invention
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Box No. V	Reasoned statement under Article 35(2) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement
<input type="checkbox"/> Box No. VI	Certain documents cited
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Box No. VII	Certain defects in the international application
<input type="checkbox"/> Box No. VIII	Certain observations on the international application

Date of submission of the demand 24 June 2005	Date of completion of this report 10 March 2006
Name and mailing address of the IPEA/AU AUSTRALIAN PATENT OFFICE PO BOX 200, WODEN ACT 2606, AUSTRALIA E-mail address: pct@ipaaustralia.gov.au Facsimile No. (02) 6285 3929	Authorized Officer Tharu Fernando Telephone No. (02) 6283 2486

Box No. I Basis of the report**1. With regard to the language, this report is based on:**

- ☒ The international application in the language in which it was filed
- ☐ A translation of the international application into _____, which is the language of a translation furnished for the purposes of:
- ☐ international search (under Rules 12.3(a) and 23.1 (b))
- ☐ publication of the international application (under Rule 12.4(a))
- ☐ international preliminary examination (Rules 55.2(a) and/or 55.3(a))

2. With regard to the elements of the international application, this report is based on (replacement sheets which have been furnished to the receiving Office in response to an invitation under Article 14 are referred to in this report as "originally filed" and are not annexed to this report):

- ☐ the international application as originally filed/furnished
- ☐ the description:
- | | |
|--------|--|
| pages | as originally filed/furnished |
| pages* | received by this Authority on _____ with the letter of _____ |
| pages* | received by this Authority on _____ with the letter of _____ |
- ☐ the claims:
- | | |
|--------|--|
| pages | as originally filed/furnished |
| pages* | as amended (together with any statement) under Article 19 |
| pages* | received by this Authority on _____ with the letter of _____ |
| pages* | received by this Authority on _____ with the letter of _____ |
- ☐ the drawings:
- | | |
|--------|--|
| pages | as originally filed/furnished |
| pages* | received by this Authority on _____ with the letter of _____ |
| pages* | received by this Authority on _____ with the letter of _____ |

- ☐ a sequence listing and/or any related table(s) - see Supplemental Box Relating to Sequence Listing.

3. ☐ The amendments have resulted in the cancellation of:

- ☐ the description, pages
- ☐ the claims, Nos.
- ☐ the drawings, sheets/figs
- ☐ the sequence listing (specify):
- ☐ any table(s) related to the sequence listing (specify):

4. ☐ This report has been established as if (some of) the amendments annexed to this report and listed below had not been made, since they have been considered to go beyond the disclosure as filed, as indicated in the Supplemental Box (Rule 70.2(c)).

- ☐ the description, pages
- ☐ the claims, Nos.
- ☐ the drawings, sheets/figs
- ☐ the sequence listing (specify):
- ☐ any table(s) related to the sequence listing (specify):

* If item 4 applies, some or all of those sheets may be marked "superseded."

INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY REPORT ON PATENTABILITY

International application No.

PCT/AU2004/001661

Box No. V Reasoned statement under Article 35(2) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement

1. Statement

Novelty (N)	Claims 1-13	YES
	Claims	NO
Inventive step (IS)	Claims 1-13	YES
	Claims	NO
Industrial applicability (IA)	Claims 1-13	YES
	Claims	NO

2. Citations and explanations (Rule 70.7)

Novelty and Inventive Step (claims 1-13)

The present invention is directed to a method of forming a metal coated steel strip having a brushed finish comprising the steps of (a) passing the steel strip through a molten bath of metal, (b) skin pass rolling the metal coated strip, followed by (c) brushing the rolled and coated steel strip.

The closest prior art document is EP 483810 A (KAWATETSU GALVANIZING CO LTD) 6 May 1992.

This document discloses the features of (i) galvanising the steel sheet with a zinc or zinc-aluminium alloy, (ii) rolling the coated steel to minimize the spangles, followed by (iii) brushing the coated steel with a rotary brush. However, the steps are not in the same order as that in the present invention. Therefore despite the scope of this citation being broad enough to encompass the features of the present invention, it teaches away from the present invention by stating that the brushing step is between the cooling device and the skin pass rolling mill, unlike in the present invention where the brushing occurs after the skin pass rolling.

Therefore the present invention is novel and inventive.

Box No. VII **Certain defects in the international application**

The following defects in the form or contents of the international application have been noted:

Please note that the drawing sheet mentioned in the PCT request has not been submitted with the rest of the specification. It was said that the drawing sheet will be submitted as an amendment with the demand, but this has not happened. Please supply the drawing sheet as soon as possible.